

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2, 6-7 and 10-15 have been previously cancelled. Claims 16-21 were previously added. Please amend claims 3, 5, 8 and 16-17.

3. (Currently Amended) A viable cellular population produced by a method comprising: infecting the cells with a retrovirus in the presence of an effective immobilized amount of material including a ligand which binds to the cells and a ligand which binds to the retrovirus, so as to co-localize the retrovirus and the cells and increase the transduction efficiency of the cells, said infecting being conducted in a medium essentially free from hexadimethrine bromide, wherein said infecting is performed without cocultivation in the presence of retroviral producer cells.

4. (Original) The viable cellular population of claim 3 which comprises hematopoietic stem cells.

5. (Twice Amended) A method for cellular grafting, comprising: grafting a mammal-human with a viable cellular population of human cells produced by a method comprising infecting the cells with a retrovirus in the presence of an effective immobilized amount of material including a ligand which binds to the cells and a ligand which binds to the retrovirus, so as to co-localize the retrovirus and the cells and increase the transduction efficiency of the cells, said infecting being conducted in a medium essentially free from hexadimethrine bromide, wherein said infecting is performed without cocultivation in the presence of retroviral producer cells.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for cellular grafting, comprising:

grafting a mammal—human I with a cellular composition, comprising a substantially retroviral transduced population of viable human cells, said composition being essentially free from both retroviral producer cells and hexadimethrine bromide.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the cellular population comprises hematopoietic stem cells.

16. (Currently Amended) The viable cellular population according to ~~method of~~ claim 3, wherein the medium is essentially free from any polycationic agent which increases the efficiency of transduction of the viable mammalian cells by the retrovirus in co-culture, but which agent reduces the efficiency of transduction of the cells by the retrovirus in the presence of said material.

17. (Currently Amended) The viable cellular population according to ~~method of~~ claim 16, wherein said material comprises substantially pure fibronectin, substantially pure fibronectin fragments, or mixture thereof.

18. (Previously Added) The method of claim 5, wherein the medium is essentially free from any polycationic agent which increases the efficiency of transduction of the viable mammalian cells by the retrovirus in co-culture, but which agent reduces the efficiency of transduction of the cells by the retrovirus in the presence of said material.

19. (Previously Added) The method of claim 18, wherein said material comprises substantially pure fibronectin, substantially pure fibronectin fragments, or mixture thereof.

20. (Previously Added) The method of claim 8, wherein said composition is essentially free from any polycationic agent that is effective to increase the efficiency of transduction of the viable cells by the retrovirus in co-culture.

21. (Previously Added) The method of claim 20, wherein said viable cells have been transduced in the presence of substantially pure fibronectin, substantially pure fibronectin fragments, or mixture thereof, so as to increase the efficiency of transduction by the retrovirus.